

Preschool Storytime Basics Additional Questions (and Answers!)

The following questions were missed during the live *Preschool Storytime Basics* webinar presented by Kim Lehman on January 10, 2017. Kim Lehman has graciously provided answers below.

What about parents doing the craft instead of letting the children do their own work?

This is a very universal challenge. Two simple suggestions I have is to encourage, in a fun and playful way, parents to make their own craft or praise the children that are working independently. When a parent backs off immediately praise their child. "Wow! You are doing that all by yourself!" We will definitely talk about this more in the craft webinar.

Do you have resource/vendors for BIG Books??

Lakeshore sells Big Books.

Do you have any tell and draw stories you would like to share?? I have a hard time finding them!

Richard Thompson's books are exceptional. His stories are more complete but excellent. His books are out of print but there are resources online. Margaret J. Olson also has out of print books that are great. Flannel Friday Pinterest has quite a number of tell and draws.

I am the only one that does Storytime - no other staff wants to touch it. This means I CANNOT be sick or go on vacation on Tuesday or Wednesday without canceling Storytime... any suggestions?

Yes, I've been there putting great pressure on myself to always be there. Some options to take the pressure off: 1.) Find a volunteer willing to help. Have a storytime ready to go complete with books, rhymes and songs on index cards and flannels or props. Make sure everyone knows where to find that program. A volunteer could even show a video. 2.) Have a staff member lay out books and puppets in the story room so patrons can have a "free form" storytimes vs. nothing at all. 3.) Take care of yourself. It is not the end of the world to take a vacation or be sick. Everyone loses if you have burn out.